

North American Wetlands Conservation Act

U.S. Standard Grants

Approved by Migratory Bird Conservation Commission on September 6, 2017

Project Name WETLANDS OF THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY PHASE II

Location (County) CA-BUTTE, CA-COLUSA, CA-GLENN, CA-PLACER, CA-SUTTER, CA-YUBA

Congressional District CA-1, CA-3, CA-4

Grantee Organization CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION

Project Officer Chadd Santerre

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Partner Name STA-CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE, CON-CALIFORNIA WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION, STA-CALIFORNIA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-PLACER LAND TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,045,200.00

Joint Venture CENTRAL VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 32-Coastal California

Project Description This project will conserve critical habitat by restoring 391 acres of palustrine emergent, 45 acres of palustrine forested and 500 acres of associated uplands. The enhancement of 1,325 acres of palustrine emergent and 53 acres of associated uplands will improve the ability for managers to effectively and efficiently manage these habitats, thus maximizing resource availability and diversity through infrastructure improvements. All of the developed infrastructure will also aid in combating future issues by allow managers to implement advanced management strategies to conserve water supplies allowing less water to go farther and have improved results on these habitats even when water supplies are challenged.

Project Name VIRGINIA TIDAL RIVERS & BAYS II

Location (County) VA-ACCOMACK, VA-SOUTHAMPTON, VA-VIRGINIA BEACH CITY

Congressional District VA-2, VA-4

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer James Rader

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Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-ENVIVA FOREST CONSERVATION FUND, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY, STA-VIRGINIA OUTDOORS FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,004,448.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain, BCR 30-New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast

Project Description This project is the second in a series of projects planned by Ducks Unlimited (DU) in coordination with local, state and federal agencies, other non-government organizations and private landowners to enhance, restore and protect key wetlands along tributaries in coastal Virginia (VA), including the Chesapeake Bay and Back Bay. The 64,000 square mile Chesapeake Bay watershed is North America's largest and most biologically diverse estuary. As home to over 3,600 plant and animal species, the Bay supports a complex system of aquatic and terrestrial habitats that are linked to human and natural landscapes and water quality in the watershed. The Bay and its thousands of miles of river and stream habitats support abundant living resources by providing key forage species and habitat. This proposal will support the Chesapeake Bay Program's key goal of protecting and restoring vital habitats in the watershed and will assist in maintaining or improving existing water quality. The objective of this proposal is to protect in perpetuity 848 acres of wetlands and 565 acres of uplands, as well as to enhance 609 acres of wetlands across six proposal sites. The enhancement outlined in this proposal will add foraging opportunities for a variety of bird guilds; late summer and early fall migrants using of these critical coastal and inland wetland ecosystems. Perpetual protection followed by investment in enhancements of managed wetlands on public and private lands within four Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV) focus areas contribute to the landscape-scale work to protect, enhance and manage a series of critical wintering grounds in the Atlantic Flyway. The nine partners above represent a cross section of public resource agencies, non-government organizations and private landowners working together across priority areas in coastal VA to implement priority wetlands conservation strategies following the ACJV's South Atlantic Migratory Bird Initiative and New England/Mid Atlantic Coast BCR Implementation Plan.

Project Name SOUTHEAST NEW JERSEY COASTAL INITIATIVE III

Location (County) NJ-ATLANTIC, NJ-BURLINGTON, NJ-CAPE MAY, NJ-CUMBERLAND, NJ-GLOUCESTER, NJ-SALEM

Congressional District NJ-1, NJ-2

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Jim Feaga

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Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-NEW JERSEY CONSERVATION FOUNDATION, STA-NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, STA-NEW JERSEY NATURAL LANDS TRUST, CON-NEW JERSEY WATERFOWL STAMP ADVISORY COMMITTEE, CON-SOUTH JERSEY LAND & WATER TRUST, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,000,000.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 30-New England/Mid-Atlantic Coast

Project Description This project will permanently protect 1,772 acres and 1,389 acres will be protected through acquisition. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will acquire a total of 165 acres and add them to the Supawna Meadows NWR (Supawna NWR). Supawna NWR is designated a Wetland of International Importance by the Ramsar Convention and has been identified by the Black Duck Joint Venture as the most important habitat for wintering American Black Ducks. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Green Acres will acquire 626 acres and added them to a Wildlife Management Area (WMA). These WMA additions will add to the vast contiguous habitat protected and managed by NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife. NJ Conservation Foundation (NJCF) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) will acquire 599 acres and add it to NJCF's preserves. In addition to acquiring 1,389 acres surrounding Supawna NWR and various WMAs and Preserves, NJDEP, NJWSAC, NJ Natural Lands Trust (NJNLT), and South Jersey Land and Water Trust (SJLWT) will protect more than 380 acres within the project area via match. Adding these match tracts to the project, the protected wetland component is significant with over 70 percent of all tracts being made up of wetlands that are in decline including emergent, forested, and estuarine wetlands. Opportunities for the public include outdoor activities such as: hunting, fishing, hiking, bird watching, and research.

Project Name SOUTH LOUISIANA WATERFOWL HABITAT CONSERVATION

Location (County) LA-ACADIA, LA-ALLEN, LA-ASCENSION, LA-ASSUMPTION, LA-AVOYELLES, LA-BEAUREGARD, LA-CALCASIEU, LA-CAMERON, LA-E. BATON ROUGE, LA-EAST FELICIANA, LA-EVANGELINE, LA-IBERIA, LA-IBERVILLE, LA-JEFFERSON, LA-JEFFERSON DAVIS, LA-LAFAYETTE, LA-LAFOURCHE, LA-LIVINGSTON, LA-ORLEANS, LA-PLAQUEMINES, LA-POINTE COUPEE, LA-RAPIDES, LA-ST. BERNARD, LA-ST. CHARLES, LA-ST. HELENA, LA-ST. JAMES, LA-ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, LA-ST. LANDRY, LA-ST. MARTIN, LA-ST. MARY, LA-ST. TAMMANY, LA-TANGIPAHOA, LA-TERREBONNE, LA-VERMILION, LA-VERNON, LA-WASHINGTON, LA-WEST BATON ROUGE, LA-WEST FELICIANA

Congressional District LA-1,-3, LA-2, LA-3, LA-4, LA-5, LA-6

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Mike Carloss

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Partner Name STA-LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES, CON-MOORE-ODOM WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,000,000.00

Joint Venture EASTERN GULF COAST, GULF COAST, LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 25-West Gulf Coastal Plain/Ouachitas, BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley, BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description This project positively impacts a total of 8,044 acres of fresh, intermediate and saline coastal marsh, as well as seasonally flooded moist-soil and flooded timber habitat. Collectively, this proposal continues the Louisiana Waterfowl Project (LWP), a 25-year partnership of private landowners, corporations, state and federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations, committed to the long-term support of wetlands conservation on the Louisiana Gulf Coast, and will be available across each of the initiative areas within the Louisiana portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture (GCJV) (Chenier Plain Initiative Area (CPI), Mississippi River Coastal Wetlands Initiative Area (MRCWI) as well as portions of the Lower Mississippi Joint Venture (LMJV) (Mississippi Alluvial Valley Initiative Area (MAV)). This project will restore important migratory bird habitat through water control structures, levee work, plantings, invasive species management, and technical assistance on 8,000 acres of degraded coastal marsh, seasonally flooded moist-soil units, palustrine emergent wetlands, and flooded timber tracts. All work will provide important migration, wintering, and breeding habitat for numerous species of waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, and neo-tropical migrant songbirds and will be completed by a strong and diverse group of partners within the MRCWI and the CPI of the GCJV, and the LMJV.

Project Name SOUTH DAKOTA WOLSEY IBA HABITAT CONSERVATION PROJECT PHASE I

Location (County) SD-AURORA, SD-BEADLE, SD-DAVISON, SD-FAULK, SD-HAND, SD-HANSON, SD-HYDE, SD-JERAULD, SD-MINER, SD-POTTER, SD-SANBORN, SD-SPINK, SD-SULLY

Congressional District SD-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization AUDUBON DAKOTA

Project Officer Marshall Johnson

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Partner Name CON-AUDUBON DAKOTA, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, LOC-JAMES RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, STA-SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH & PARKS

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,000,357.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description This project will protect 1,380 acres through easements, establish 34 acres, restore 597 acres and enhance 880 acres while overall protecting 2,892.3 acres within east-central South Dakota, in the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV). This project was designed with a targeted approach to protect large, contiguous, tracts of land within the project area while also implementing specific conservation actions to improve the functions of key wetlands. Habitat protection will be accomplished by Audubon Dakota acquiring perpetual conservation easement on private land in partnership with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Over 100 landowners in the project area have contacted the USFWS Huron, Lake Andes, and Sand Lake Wetland Management Districts, to express interest in these perpetual easements. Audubon and USFWS will provide landowners and partners with the technical assistance necessary to effectively protect and enhance habitat. Progress will be measured not only by acres of easements acquired, but ultimately more importantly, by recording the increased use of these areas by Sandhill Cranes and other grassland/wetland birds such as the Whooping Crane, Marbled Godwit,

Northern Pintail, and Grasshopper Sparrow. Since the project is composed of habitat supporting some of the highest wetland density, annual bird surveys will be conducted to obtain this information.

Project Name SABINE RANCH - MCFADDIN NWR

Location (County) TX-JEFFERSON

Congressional District TX-14

Grantee Organization U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Project Officer Tim Cooper

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Partner Name CON-NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF), CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, CON-THE CONSERVATION FUND, OTH-THE MEADOWS FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,728,500.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description This project will acquire from The Conservation Fund (TCF) 1,515 acres of coastal palustrine freshwater wetlands and coastal prairie to be protected in perpetuity within the McFaddin National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) on the upper Texas Coast within the Gulf Coast Joint Venture. This acquisition is contained within the larger 12,376 acre tract known as Sabine Ranch, purchased in September 2016 by TCF to eliminate the imminent threat to the property of fragmentation and development. Sabine Ranch is located within the East Bay drainage basin of the larger Galveston Bay system, which is one of the most productive estuaries for fish and shellfish on the Texas Coast. Sabine Ranch is part of the Salt Bayou sub-watershed, which contains the largest contiguous estuarine marsh complex in Texas and includes freshwater to estuarine marsh, coastal prairie grasslands, tidal flats, creeks and basins and associated aquatic vegetation. Species that will benefit include: northern pintail, mottled duck, mallard, lesser scaup, greater scaup, redhead, canvasback, ring-necked duck, and American wigeon.

Project Name RUSSELL SAGE WMA KENNEDY TRACT ENHANCEMENT

Location (County) LA-CALDWELL, LA-MADISON, LA-OUACHITA, MS-WARREN

Congressional District LA-5, MS-2

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Nick Biasini

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Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE & FISHERIES, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$999,939.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,460,000.00

Joint Venture LOWER MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Bird Conservation Region BCR 26-Mississippi Alluvial Valley

Project Description The Russell Sage WMA Kennedy Tract Enhancement proposal is the one of the initial endeavors of a multi-phase effort aimed at the protection and enhancement of critical wetland habitats on public lands in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley (MAV) by leveraging private land conservation values perpetually protected via conservation easements/servitudes in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Primary conservation programs within the MAV aim to maintain and restore the landscape at some functional level that benefits both wildlife and people with specific emphasis on increasing survival and subsequent breeding success of migratory birds that utilize this landscape as wintering and migration habitat. Conservation efforts are therefore designed to decrease habitat fragmentation and enhance the quantity and quality of water on the MAV landscape toward improving wetland habitats and the provision of natural experiences such as wildlife viewing, hunting, and fishing. The completion of proposed work will build on past NAWCA investments in wetland conservation in the MAV that set a foundation for these future efforts to mitigate habitat degradation and ensure that the MAV continues to fulfill its historical role as one of the most important landscapes in North America for continental populations of waterfowl, wading birds, shorebirds and other wetland- dependent migratory birds. In addition, defined conservation activities promote a conservation design that lends to the development of wetland habitat complexes where conservation efforts on both public and private land habitats cooperatively contribute to sustaining defined habitat objectives within the MAV. Through this project, 2,672 acres on six proposal sites in the MAV in Mississippi and Louisiana will be protected and enhanced.

Project Name RIO GRANDE CORRIDOR, NEW MEXICO PHASE III

Location (County) NM-BERNALILLO, NM-SOCORRO

Congressional District NM-1, NM-2

Grantee Organization NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEDERATION

Project Officer Alan Hamilton

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Partner Name LOC-ALBUQUERQUE METRO ARROYO & FLOOD CONTROL AUTHORITY, CON-AUDUBON NEW MEXICO, LOC-BERNALILLO COUNTY, CON-CENTRAL NEW MEXICO AUDUBON, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, CON-FRIENDS OF THE BOSQUE DEL APACHE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, CON-FRIENDS OF VALLE DE ORO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, OTH-MCCUNE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION, STA-NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF GAME & FISH, CON-NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-RIO GRANDE AGRICULTURAL LAND TRUST, CON-RIO GRANDE RESTORATION, CON-RIO GRANDE RETURN, CON-SANTA ANA NATIVE PLANTS, CON-SAVE OUR BOSQUE TASK FORCE, OTH-SB FOUNDATION, CON-WILDEARTH GUARDIANS

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,474,544.00

Joint Venture INTERMOUNTAIN WEST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 16-Southern Rockies/Colorado Plateau, BCR 35-Chihuahuan Desert

Project Description This project will protect, restore and enhance an additional 1,877 acres and 843 non-add acres of palustrine emergent wetlands, riparian floodplain and associated uplands on six proposal sites along the Middle Rio Grande within two New Mexico counties. Proposed work includes: acquisition of a 121 acre conservation easement near the La Joya and Bernardo Wildlife Management Areas and Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), restoration on 805 acres of riparian and emergent forest in the active floodplain of the Rio Grande, enhancement of 951 acres of emergent and forested wetlands, and scrub-shrub at Bosque del Apache NWR, and enhancement of 38 non-add acres of wetlands at the Valle de Oro NWR. Together these two projects comprise 4.8 river miles of forested and emergent wetlands that will help expand critical habitat for many species of migratory birds including the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and the Yellow-Billed Cuckoo. Additionally, protection and enhancement of private lands are especially valuable because of their close proximity to the La Joya and Bernardo State Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Sevilleta NWR. Through NAWCA, a total of 1,267 acres of conservation easements have been acquired in the Rio Grande Corridor (RGC), helping establish conservation easements as a viable option for the protection of the rural and agrarian lifestyle of farmers, ranchers and other landowners while protecting critical wildlife habitat within the Rio Grande corridor.

Project Name PRAIRIE LAKES IX WETLAND INITIATIVE

Location (County) IA-BUTLER, IA-CERRO GORDO, IA-CLAY, IA-DICKINSON, IA-HAMILTON, IA-HARDIN, IA-PALO ALTO, IA-POLK, IA-SAC, IA-STORY, IA-WINNEBAGO, IA-WRIGHT

Congressional District IA-3, IA-4

Grantee Organization IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Project Officer Todd Bishop

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Partner Name CON-AUDUBON SOCIETY, BIG BLUESTEM CHAPTER, LOC-HARDIN COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, STA-IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CON-IOWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION, PRO-ITC MIDWEST, LLC, PRO-JAX OUTDOOR GEAR, CON-OUTDOOR ALLIANCE OF STORY COUNTY, LOC-PALO ALTO COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (HAMILTON COUNTY), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (IOWA STATE COUNCIL), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (MARSHALL COUNTY CHAPTER), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (NORTHERN POLK CHAPTER), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (STORY COUNTY), CON-PHEASANTS FOREVER (WRIGHT COUNTY CHAPTER), LOC-POLK COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), PRO-SKUNK RIVER PADDLERS, LOC-STORY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, LOC-STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD, CON-STORY COUNTY CONSERVATION PARTNERS, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, LOC-WHEATSFIELD CO-OP, CON-WHITETAILS UNLIMITED, LITTLE WALL CHAPTER, LOC-WRIGHT COUNTY CONSERVATION BOARD

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,285,647.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes, BCR 22-Eastern Tallgrass Prairie

Project Description This proposal continues to build on what has been a successful and long-term

partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Waterfowl Production Area program and NAWCA grants. Evidence of the effectiveness of this partnership can be found in maps showing the focus of resources from both programs to Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV) priority landscapes. In our attempts to meet the production goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, we have focused on wetland and grassland restoration efforts aimed at turning large isolated wetlands into the cornerstones of wetland-grassland complexes. Through this proposal, we are also improving our management of large prairie marshes to benefit migrating birds and also provide better nesting and brood-rearing habitats for the birds that breed in this area.

Project Name NORTH PLATTE RIVER WETLANDS II

Location (County) NE-GARDEN, NE-KEITH, NE-LINCOLN, NE-MORRILL, NE-SCOTTS BLUFF, WY-GOSHEN

Congressional District NE-3, WY-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer John Denton

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Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST, STA-NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION, CON-PLATTE RIVER BASIN ENVIRONMENTS, INC., PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-WYOMING GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,058,148.00

Joint Venture INTERMOUNTAIN WEST, PLAYA LAKES, RAINWATER BASIN

Bird Conservation Region BCR 18-Shortgrass Prairie, BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie

Project Description This proposal will permanently protect 1,215 acres and restore 937 acres of habitat. Activities include two fee-title acquisitions, one of which includes very important water rights, and three conservation easements. Lastly, the partners will complete an additional 651 acres of restoration in an effort to increase the North Platte's carrying capacity for waterfowl and other wildlife. Restoration techniques will include removal of invasive tree and plant species, restoration of river channel, riparian and grassland habitats, installation of levees and other water control structures, as well as installation of fence to achieve vegetation conditions favored by waterfowl, shorebirds and wading birds. In total, this project will directly and positively impact 1,916 unique acres. The grantee and its partners are working to protect a large, continuous block of wetlands and associated habitats in this region. The projects herein serve to expand and complement habitats protected and restored through earlier and ongoing conservation efforts within the project area.

Project Name MOTTLED DUCK WETLAND IMPROVEMENTS

Location (County) TX-ARANSAS, TX-AUSTIN, TX-BEE, TX-BRAZORIA, TX-BROOKS, TX-CALHOUN, TX-CAMERON, TX-CHAMBERS, TX-COLORADO, TX-FORT BEND, TX-GALVESTON, TX-GOLIAD, TX-HARRIS, TX-HIDALGO, TX-JACKSON, TX-JEFFERSON, TX-KENEDY, TX-KLEBERG, TX-LAVACA, TX-LIBERTY, TX-MATAGORDA, TX-NUECES, TX-ORANGE, TX-REFUGIO, TX-SAN PATRICIO, TX-STARR, TX-VICTORIA, TX-

WALLER, TX-WHARTON, TX-WILLACY

Congressional District: TX-2, TX-7, TX-8, TX-9, TX-10, TX-10, TX-14, TX-15, TX-18, TX-22, TX-27, TX-28, TX-29, TX-34, TX-36

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Todd Merendino

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Partner Name PRO-AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, SCH-TEXAS A&M AGRILIFE RESEARCH, STA-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT, CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$999,681.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,005,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 36-Tamaulipan Brushlands, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description This project will restore 364 acres of former agricultural fields at Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) to a mosaic of seasonal wetlands and native coastal prairie. The grantee and partners will enhance 1,185 acres of privately owned wetlands, and will continue a 25-year partnership of landowners, state and federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations partners committed to the long-term support of wetlands conservation on the Texas Gulf Coast through the Texas Prairie Wetlands Project. The project will improve nesting, brood-rearing, and molting habitat for mottled ducks. Project sites will be managed under 10-year agreements with private landowners, and will include projects across each of the three initiative areas within the Texas portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture (Chenier Plain Initiative Area, Texas Mid-Coast Initiative Area, and Laguna Madre Initiative Area). Other project activities include the installation of 3 solar wells that will provide supplemental water for enhancing waterbird habitat on 15 acres of shallow wetlands and the installation of a passive management water control structure that will enhance 502 acres of coastal emergent wetlands within Lower Neches WMA Old River Unit. This proposal also recognizes a contribution from Axalta Coating Systems, a new corporate partner, which resulted in the enhancement of 17 acres of palustrine emergent wetlands at the Middleton Unit on Anahuac NWR.

Project Name MONTANA HI-LINE PRAIRIE WETLAND VII

Location (County) MT-BLAINE, MT-DANIELS, MT-HILL, MT-LIBERTY, MT-PHILLIPS, MT-ROOSEVELT, MT-SHERIDAN, MT-TOOLE, MT-VALLEY

Congressional District MT-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Project Officer Randy Gazda

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Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS, PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,201,000.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE
Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description This proposal is within the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV) and continues conservation efforts by a core group of partners (Ducks Unlimited (DU), Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP), The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)) in north-central and northeast Montana. Through this collaborative initiative, local attitudes toward land stewardship and perpetual conservation protection are improving. This project area, like much of the country, is rapidly losing both native and Conservation Reserve Program grassland acres. Grassland and wetland conservation easements are becoming more popular. However, the conversion of native prairie to cropland continues across the Hi-Line. This proposal, when implemented, will: 1) protect some of the most productive wetland and associated grassland habitat within the project area through acquisition of perpetual conservation easements (14,048 acres); 2) restore former cropland to grassland and wetland habitat, primarily by implementing grazing systems with benefits to waterfowl and declining grassland birds (3000 acres); and 3) restore wetland habitat, by plugging a drain ditch (12 acres). Species that will benefit include pintails, mallards, northern scaup, wood ducks, American wigeon and others.

Project Name LOWER CHIPPEWA RIVER IBA ACQUISITION

Location (County) WI-BUFFALO, WI-DUNN, WI-EAU CLAIRE, WI-PEPIN

Congressional District WI-3

Grantee Organization WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Project Officer Eddie Shea

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Partner Name OTH-ALMA ROD & GUN CLUB, CON-BEAVER CREEK RESERVE, LOC-BUFFALO COUNTY, WI, PRO-DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE, CON-LOWER CHIPPEWA RIVER ALLIANCE, PRO-NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-WEST WISCONSIN LAND TRUST, STA-WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Date approved

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,424,355.00

Joint Venture UPPER MISSISSIPPI RIVER-GREATLAKES

Bird Conservation Region BCR 23-Prairie Hardwood Transition

Project Description This project will permanently protect 1,924 acres of critical wetlands, riparian habitat, and adjacent uplands within the Lower Chippewa River watershed for the benefit to migratory birds and other wildlife. The Lower Chippewa River State Natural Area (LCRSNA) is a landscape scale acquisition and restoration project encompassing 312,000 acres adjacent to the lower 60 miles of the Chippewa River to its confluence with the Mississippi River at the base of Lake Pepin. With more than 17 natural community types identified, this area has the greatest number of plant and animal species of any similar sized area in the state; over 75% of the state's breeding bird species nest within the LCRSNA and 50% of the state's native plant species are found within this area. The LCRSNA forms the largest intact floodplain forest in the Upper Midwest, containing floodplain savannas, river terrace prairies, backwater sloughs, sedge meadows, shallow wetlands and shrub-carr wetlands. The lower end of the

LCRSNA adjoins the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, a designated Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar International Convention on Wetlands. The project will help conserve breeding, brood-rearing, and migration habitat for waterfowl such as mallard, American black duck, wood duck, hooded merganser, and blue-winged teal; and migration habitat for canvasback, redhead, and tundra swans.

Project Name FOLLETS ISLAND

Location (County) TX-BRAZORIA

Congressional District TX-14

Grantee Organization THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Project Officer Mike Lange

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Partner Name CON-FRIENDS OF BRAZORIA WILDLIFE REFUGES, CON-NATIONAL FISH & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION (NFWF), CON-PARTNERSHIP FOR GULF COAST LAND CONSERVATION, PRO-PHILLIPS 66 COMPANY, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, CON-THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,153,000.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description This project will permanently protect 478 acres of coastal barrier island habitat consisting primarily of salt and freshwater wetlands and tall grass native prairie on Follets Island. The Trust for Public Land will purchase 4 tracts through fee title acquisition and transfer those tracts to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department for permanent protection and management. Deemed a nationally significant coastal barrier ecosystem, Follets Island is situated within the Gulf Prairies and Marshes ecological region and borders the Christmas Bay Coastal Preserve and Drum Bay, which are part of the Galveston Bay Ecosystem, and part of the Galveston Bay Estuary Program. The project is also adjacent to the Brazoria National Wildlife Refuge and is located within the Columbia Bottomlands project area established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conserve important wetlands through partnership conservation efforts. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department acquired 441 acres of the island in 2014 establishing the Follets Island Conservation Initiative. This NAWCA project proposal is part of a larger partnership effort led by The Trust for Public Land and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to increase the Follets Island Conservation Initiative, a coastal preserve, to approximately 2,000 acres. Through this current NAWCA project the preserve area will be more than doubled in size to 919 acres. Important priority waterfowl species that will benefit from this project include mottled ducks, redhead ducks, lesser scaup, mallards and many other species.

Project Name EMBAYED RIVERS INITIATIVE I

Location (County) NC-BERTIE, NC-ONSLOW

Congressional District NC-1, NC-3

Grantee Organization NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST

Project Officer Janice L. Allen

Grantee Email janice@coastallandtrust.org

Partner Name CON-NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST, STA-NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,220,000.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description This project will permanently conserve two target tracts over 1,006 acres along with three match tracts totaling 1,113 acres. Three of the five tracts in this proposal lie within the Roanoke/Chowan Rivers waterfowl focus area. According to the 2005 Atlantic Coast Joint Venture Waterfowl Implementation Plan, "the Roanoke-Chowan Rivers Focus Area includes the Roanoke River basin which is recognized as one of the largest intact bottomland hardwood systems remaining in the Mid-Atlantic region. The Embayed Rivers Initiative I will result in the permanent protection of 1,327 acres of decreasing wetland types. Specifically, a total of 1,047 acres of palustrine forested wetlands, 104 acres of freshwater wetlands and 176 acres of estuarine wetlands will be conserved. Approximately 63 percent of the total acreage associated with this Embayed Rivers Initiative I proposal consists of wetlands and 37 percent uplands. The uplands in this proposal consists of a mixture of ecologically significant longleaf pine forest and maritime shrub-scrub community types as well as planted pine stands and agricultural fields, a majority of which will be restored to native forest communities (e.g., longleaf pine) once acquired.

Project Name CONNECTING CONSERVATION CORRIDORS I

Location (County) GA-MCINTOSH, SC-CHARLESTON, SC-GEORGETOWN, SC-HORRY

Congressional District GA-1, SC-6, SC-7

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer James Rader

Grantee Email jrader@ducks.org

Partner Name LOC-CHARLESTON COUNTY GREENBELT PROGRAM, LOC-CHARLESTON COUNTY PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRO-FOLK LAND MANAGEMENT, INC, STA-GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, STA-SOUTH CAROLINA CONSERVATION BANK, STA-SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & TOURISM, CON-WETLANDS AMERICA TRUST

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$3,462,200.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description This proposal represents the first of several phases to permanently protect and enhance strategic coastal properties consisting of diverse wetland and upland habitats in the project area which is defined as the coastal zones of Georgia and South Carolina; spanning from the Altamaha River Basin to the Upper Waccamaw Focus Area. Specifically, this proposal seeks to expand the success of partnerships connecting riparian corridors and providing contiguous protected, restored and enhanced wildlife habitat. Partners have been successful in protecting lands along river corridors and waterfowl focus areas in the coastal plain of GA and SC with significant protection in the ACE Basin (285,323 acres), South Lowcountry (258,569 acres), Santee River Basin (711,616 acres), Winyah Bay (319,352 acres) and Altamaha River Basin (140,000 acres). Specifically, this proposal seeks to secure funding for the fee acquisition of one strategic property for inclusion into Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), the bargain-sale acquisition of a conservation easement on another strategic property, the donated conservation easement on a property surrounded by conserved lands, the enhancement of wetland habitat on a state-owned wildlife management area (WMA) and the enhancement of wetland habitat on a state historic site. These conservation projects total 1,457 acres of critical habitat across four of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture's (ACJV) Waterfowl Focus Areas and help to link the focus areas to each other through conserved, restored and enhanced lands for the benefit of a multitude of species. Priority waterfowl species that will benefit from this project include: American black duck, mottled duck, mallard, American wigeon, northern pintail, lesser scaup, ring-necked duck, redhead, canvasback and wood duck.

Project Name COASTAL TEXAS II

Location (County) TX-ARANSAS, TX-AUSTIN, TX-BEE, TX-BRAZORIA, TX-BROOKS, TX-CALHOUN, TX-CAMERON, TX-CHAMBERS, TX-COLORADO, TX-FORT BEND, TX-GALVESTON, TX-GOLIAD, TX-HARRIS, TX-HIDALGO, TX-JACKSON, TX-JEFFERSON, TX-KENEDY, TX-KLEBERG, TX-LAVACA, TX-LIBERTY, TX-MATAGORDA, TX-NUECES, TX-ORANGE, TX-REFUGIO, TX-SAN PATRICIO, TX-STARR, TX-VICTORIA, TX-WALLER, TX-WHARTON, TX-WILLACY

Congressional District TX-2,7,8,9, TX-10, TX-14, TX-15, TX-18, TX-22, TX-27, TX-28, TX-29, TX--34, TX-36,

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Todd Merendino

Grantee Email tmerendino@ducks.org

Partner Name PRO-AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT, STATE PARKS DIVISION, STA-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT, WILDLIFE DIVISION, CON-TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, OTH-THUNDERBIRD HUNTING CLUB

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$999,823.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,050,100.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 36-Tamaulipan Brushlands, BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description This proposal will restore and enhance 2,042 acres of decreasing coastal wetland types and prairies in the Texas portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture. Proposed activities include restoration and enhancement 1,400 acres of privately owned wetlands, and continuation of a 25-year

partnership of landowners, state and federal agencies, and non-governmental organizations committed to the long-term support of wetlands conservation on the Texas Gulf Coast through the Texas Prairie Wetlands Project. Project sites include moist-soil units and seasonally flooded rice fields that will provide important migration, wintering, and breeding habitat for numerous species of waterfowl, shorebirds, wading birds, and landbirds. Project sites will be managed under 10-year agreements with private landowners, and will include projects across the three initiative areas within the Texas portion of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture (Chenier Plain Initiative Area, Texas Mid-Coast Initiative Area, and Laguna Madre Initiative Area). This project will enhance 544 acres (and 611 non-add acres) of managed freshwater wetlands at Justin Hurst WMA via installation of a re-lift pump structure and associated infrastructure consisting of levees and water control structures to convey water to multiple wetland units. Additionally, 70 acres of coastal prairie and 28 acres of seasonal wetlands at Sheldon Lake State Park will be restored via excavation of previously converted wetland basins, creation of micro-topography associated with native prairie, and planting of native wetland and prairie vegetation. The project will benefit several priority duck species, including: mottled duck, northern pintail, mallard, lesser scaup, and greater scaup, redhead, canvasback, American wigeon, wood duck, and ring-necked duck.

Project Name CHASE LAKE AREA WETLAND PROJECT XIII

Location (County) ND-BURLEIGH, ND-DICKEY, ND-FOSTER, ND-KIDDER, ND-LA MOURE, ND-LOGAN, ND-MCINTOSH, ND-MCLEAN, ND-SHERIDAN, ND-STUTSMAN, ND-WELLS

Congressional District ND-AT LARGE-1

Grantee Organization U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Project Officer Scott McLeod

Grantee Email Scott_McLeod@fws.gov

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NORTH DAKOTA GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT, CON-NORTH DAKOTA NATURAL RESOURCES TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S)

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,006,277.00

Joint Venture PRAIRIE POTHOLE

Bird Conservation Region BCR 11-Prairie Potholes

Project Description The Chase Lake Area Wetland Project (CLP) encompasses more than 6.5 million acres in the Missouri Coteau physiographic sub-region in central North Dakota. It also lies in the heart of the Prairie Pothole Region and Prairie Pothole Joint Venture area. This landscape contains some of the most numerous, productive and diverse wetland communities in the world with wetland densities often exceeding 100 basins per square mile. These diverse and complex wetland habitats are linked together and provide nesting, brood rearing, loafing and foraging habitats for wetland dependent waterfowl, shorebirds, waterbirds, and passerines, as well as many mammals, amphibians and aquatic insects. This project will conserve over 18,000 acres through restoration and enhancement activities as well as conservations and lease acquisitions.

Project Name CENTRAL FLYWAY MIGRATION CORRIDOR III

Location (County) NE-ADAMS, NE-BUFFALO, NE-BUTLER, NE-CLAY, NE-DAWSON, NE-FILLMORE, NE-FRANKLIN, NE-FRONTIER, NE-GOSPER, NE-HALL, NE-HAMILTON, NE-HARLAN, NE-HOWARD, NE-JEFFERSON, NE-KEARNEY, NE-LINCOLN, NE-MERRICK, NE-NUCKOLLS, NE-PHELPS, NE-PLATTE, NE-POLK, NE-SALINE, NE-SEWARD, NE-THAYER, NE-WEBSTER, NE-YORK

Congressional District NE-1, NE-3

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer John C. Denton

Grantee Email jdenton@ducks.org

Partner Name CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, STA-NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST, STA-NEBRASKA GAME & PARKS COMMISSION, LOC-PLATTE VALLEY WEED MANAGEMENT AREA, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), CON-RAINWATER BASIN JOINT VENTURE

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$1,505,000.00

Joint Venture RAINWATER BASIN

Bird Conservation Region BCR 19-Central Mixed-grass Prairie

Project Description Rainwater Basin (RWB) wetlands have been largely drained and converted to agricultural uses while riverine wetlands have been lost due to changes in hydrology that have led to a gradual conversion of open braided channels and degraded playas from choked-out monocultures of woody and invasive species. The ongoing efforts by Ducks Unlimited (DU), the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture (RWBJV), and their partners to protect, restore, and enhance the remaining habitat within the RWBJV Jurisdictional area will ensure that these species are not limited by habitat availability along the Central Migration corridor. Overall, this proposal will perpetually protect 120 acres crucial to management of a publicly-owned Rainwater Basin wetland while restoring or enhancing over 12,500 acres of wetlands in total. This landscape-scale strategy continues ongoing work in Nebraska with several projects located across the RWB and associated Platte River and Loup River systems. The RWBJV has implemented a vegetation control program in the RWB for several years to remove dense stands of accumulated, late successional plant communities on both private and publicly owned lands. The project will deliver 5,399 acres of wetland enhancement in the next two years. By disturbing these wetlands, we promote early successional plant species, providing quality foraging habitat that is selected by waterfowl during spring migration. The RWB Watershed Restoration project includes a series of pit fills that have been implemented by the RWBJV and NGPC. These pits concentrate water, catch runoff, and deprive basins of water that would otherwise reach the wetland. Filling pits with compacted soil restores hydrology and allows natural runoff to once again reach and fill shallow marsh habitats. Additionally, installation of livestock fencing and watering facilities to implement grazing management, pipeline installation for more efficient water delivery to wetlands, culverts to restore hydrology to an entire basin, shallow remnant river channel excavations, and invasive tree removal encompass some the activities of this proposal. Species that will benefit include northern pintails, mallards, sandhill cranes, piping plovers and buff-breasted sandpipers.

Project Name CAROLINA WETLANDS INITIATIVE V

Location (County) NC-BLADEN, NC-CRAVEN, NC-ONSLOW, SC-CHARLESTON

Congressional District NC-3, NC-7, SC-1

Grantee Organization NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST

Project Officer Janice L. Allen

Grantee Email janice@coastallandtrust.org

Partner Name STA-NORTH CAROLINA CLEAN WATER MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND, CON-NORTH CAROLINA COASTAL LAND TRUST, PRI-PRIVATE CONTRIBUTOR(S), STA-SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, CON-THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$1,000,000.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,353,228.00

Joint Venture ATLANTIC COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 27-Southeastern Coastal Plain

Project Description The Carolina Wetlands Initiative V will result in the permanent protection and/or enhancement of 2,437-acres of decreasing wetland types, specifically palustrine emergent and palustrine forested wetlands including approximately 81-acres of mature bottomland hard woods along Brice's Creek and Coolly Swamp, 550-acres of pocosin, and a minimum of 102-acres of other wetland forests including Atlantic white cedar and wet pine savanna in North Carolina. The remaining 1,704 - acres are palustrine emergent wetlands and mudflats within a historic rice impoundment on the Santee Coastal Reserve in South Carolina. According to Ducks Unlimited, the Santee Coastal Reserve is considered to be one of the most important wintering waterfowl site s in South Carolina.

Project Name CAMERON PRAIRIE MARSH RESTORATION

Location (County) LA-CAMERON, LA-TERREBONNE

Congressional District LA-3, LA-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Michael Carloss

Grantee Email mcarloss@ducks.org

Partner Name STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, CON-DUCKS UNLIMITED, PRO-FOX & BALDWIN, LLC

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$999,901.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,109,383.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description The project is located within the Calcasieu/Sabine and Terrebonne Basins of coastal Louisiana. The grantee will construct approximately 35,000 linear feet of earthen terraces on Cameron Parish School Board (CPSB) and Cameron Prairie National Wildlife Refuge (CPNWR) properties, which will benefit approximately 1,865 acres of brackish marsh in the Calcasieu/Sabine Basin. Once constructed, the earthen terraces will decrease fetch/turbidity, reduce erosion, create marsh habitat, increase submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) productivity, improve water quality via nutrient uptake by

wetland plants, and restore important habitat for resident and migratory birds. The restoration of barrier island habitat includes 178 acres of salt marsh and 754 acres of dunes (approximately 4.25 miles of Gulf of Mexico shoreline), which will provide ideal breeding and wintering habitat for a variety of birds including species of conservation concern. It will also provide other benefits such as protection to interior marshes, protection to inland areas and communities from storm surges, habitat for fisheries and other marine organisms, and recreational opportunities.

Project Name BISCUIT BAYOU MARSH ENHANCEMENT

Location (County) LA-JEFFERSON, LA-TERREBONNE

Congressional District LA-1

Grantee Organization DUCKS UNLIMITED

Project Officer Michael Carloss

Grantee Email mcarloss@ducks.org

Partner Name STA-COASTAL PROTECTION & RESTORATION AUTHORITY OF LOUISIANA, LOC-LOUISIANA LAND & EXPLORATION

Date approved 09/06/2017

Grant Award Amount \$935,703.00

Proposed Match Amount \$2,117,557.00

Joint Venture GULF COAST

Bird Conservation Region BCR 37-Gulf Coastal Prairie

Project Description This project will help offset Louisiana's dramatic coastal land loss. The installation of structures will prohibit the intrusion of saltwater from the Gulf into the fresh marsh of the project area when river stages are low, which will benefit approximately 3,530 acres of fresh marsh on the southwest side of the Terrebonne Basin. Once the structures are installed, the project area will experience an improvement in the quality/quantity of fresh marsh, mudflats, submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) beds, and shallow water ponds. Vegetation health/vigor will improve due to utilization of available nutrients and lack of stress due to a decrease in salt water impacts. The structures will protect the project area from converting to intermediate/brackish/salt marsh types due to the prevention of inland migration of saline waters. This proposal also benefits 280 acres of salt marsh and scrub shrub habitat in the Barataria Basin. Fifi Island will be restored and protected via the installation of 3,490 linear feet of rock breakwaters along Bayou Rigaud to reduce wave action, lessen shoreline erosion, protect/enhance shallow water habitats, provide greater resilience to storms, and improve the overall integrity of Fifi Island. This project is needed to maintain Fifi Island as viable/productive wetlands and wildlife habitat.